

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 EUR-12 H-01 INR-07
IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01
SAJ-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 NSC-05 /090 W
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R 181930Z JAN 77
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1198
SECDEF WASHDC
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR

S E C R E T USNATO 0270

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, NATO
SUBJECT: MBFR: NUCLEAR OFFER: SPC MEETING JANUARY 17

REF: (A) 76 MBFR VIENNA 623 (DTG 160904Z DEC 76)
(B) USNATO 109 (DTG 111552Z JAN 77)
(C) STATE 4401 (DTG 080248Z JAN 77)

1. SPC ON JANUARY 17 AGAIN CONSIDERED AHG REQUEST
FOR RELEASE OF AGREED GUIDANCE ON EQUIPMENT LIMITA-
TIONS UNDER THE NUCLEAR OFFER (REF A). PREVIOUS
SPC DISCUSSION REPORTED REF B.

2. FRG REP (CITRON) SAID FRG COULD GO ALONG WITH THE
GENERAL LINES OF THE US DRAFT GUIDANCE INTRODUCED
AT THE JANUARY 10 MEETING, AND ADDRESSING ONLY
LIMITATIONS ON US NUCLEAR-CAPABLE AIRCRAFT (PARA 3,
REF C). HE HAD NO FINAL GO-AHEAD, BUT HOPED HE
WOULD BY THE NEXT MEETING. UK, CANADA, BELGIUM AND
SECRET

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THE NETHERLANDS ACCEPTED VERBATIM THE US DRAFT
GUIDANCE. ITALIAN REP (CIARRAPICO) SAID HE HAD NO
INSTRUCTIONS YET, BUT HOPED HE WOULD SHORTLY. SPC
AGREED AD REFERENDUM TO THE US DRAFT GUIDANCE.
ASSUMING THIS AGREEMENT IS CONFIRMED AT THE JANUARY 24
SPC MEETING, THE TEXT WILL THEN GO TO THE NAC FOR
APPROVAL PRIOR TO THE OPENING OF THE NEGOTIATING
ROUND IN VIENNA.

3. CITRON EXPLAINED TO US PRIVATELY EARLIER IN THE

DAY THAT THE REASON FRG COULD NOT YET AGREE WAS THAT RUTH WISHED TO INSERT THE WORD "TACTICAL" INTO THE LAST PART OF THE FIRST SENTENCE OF THE DRAFT GUIDANCE, SO THAT THE SENTENCE WOULD END AS FOLLOWS: "...WOULD RESULT IN A NUMERICAL LIMITATION ON THE AGGREGATE TOTAL OF ALLUS TACTICAL AIRCRAFT OF NUCLEAR-CAPABLE MODELS IN THE AREA OF REDUCTIONS." ALTERNATIVELY, THE WORD "TACTICAL" COULD BE INSERTED BEFORE THE WORD "MODELS" IN THE ABOVE-QUOTED PHRASE. RUTH WANTED THIS CHANGE IN ORDER TODRAW A DISTINCTION BETWEEN TACTICAL AND STRATEGIC AIRCRAFT.

4. WE ASKED FOR FURTHER EXPLANATION OF THIS IDEA, SINCE IT WOULD NOT ONLY REPRESENT A CHANGE IN THE AGREED ALLIED POSITION ON AIRCRAFT LIMITATIONS, BUT WOULD ALSO INTRODUCE INTO THE LIMITATIONS DISCUSSION THE DIFFERING ALLIED AND SOVIET PERCEPTIONS OF WHAT IS A "TACTICAL" AS OPPOSED TO A "STRATEGIC" NUCLEAR-CAPABLE AIRCRAFT. CITRON ALSO FOUND THIS IDEA DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND. HE WILL BE IN BONN JANUARY 18, WILL DISCUSS IT WITH RUTH, AND LET US KNOW WHETHER THE FRG WILL MAINTAIN THE IDEA.

5. UK REP AT JANUARY 17 SPC MEETING SUGGESTED FURTHER WORK AT A LATER TIME ON PARAS 10 AND 17 OF C-M(75)75 (SEPTTEL).STREATOR
SECRET

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SECRET

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